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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Analysis of Research Trends on Male Nurses in Korea

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ABSTRACT

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This study analyzes research trends related to male nurses in Korea, focusing on studies published domestically from 2014 to 2024. The analysis reveals that research on male nurses predominantly centers on psychological and organizational factors, such as role conflict and organizational commitment. The study found that the role conflict and social perception challenges male nurses face in their duties can negatively impact their job satisfaction and increase their intention to leave the profession. These findings suggest that, for male nurses to remain engaged in their roles and pursue long-term career growth, there is a need for strengthened psychological support programs and organizational support systems. Therefore, future research should adopt a comprehensive approach aimed at fostering a gender-equal work environment and improving societal perceptions to support job satisfaction and long-term retention among male nurses. Through this approach, it is expected that solutions can be developed to help male nurses establish stability and grow within their roles.

INTRODUCTION

Significance of Research

As the demand for nursing staff in Korea continues to grow, the role of male personnel is gradually expanding. According to the Korea Health Personnel Licensing Examination Institute(1), men make up approximately 5% of all licensed nurses. Despite the low number of male nurses, interest in their roles and duties within the nursing field is steadily increasing(2). Male nurses make significant contributions, particularly in physically demanding areas such as emergency rooms, intensive care units, and mental health fields(3).

Male nurses perform various roles within the traditionally female-dominated nursing profession but still frequently face social biases rooted in gender stereotypes(4). Research is needed to analyze the job experiences of male nurses and the factors of gender-based discrimination they encounter, as this can contribute to enhancing gender diversity in the nursing profession and improving job satisfaction(5).

Previous studies indicate that male nurses tend to experience social biases and discrimination based on gender while performing their duties as nurses(6-8). This is especially pronounced in the nursing profession, where strong stereotypes of it being a female-centered field persist, highlighting the need for male nurses to actively work toward breaking gender stereotypes in the workplace(1). Male nurses often face misunderstandings and discomfort related to physical contact or caregiving processes with patients and may sometimes be excluded from taking lead roles in certain nursing tasks(9) or male nurses, key factors influencing job satisfaction include the work environment, career development opportunities, and gender equality within the workplace(10-14). Previous studies report that the challenges and difficulties male nurses face early in their careers tend to improve over time, with increasing instances of their expertise being recognized within their workplaces(15-37). This improvement in job satisfaction is

significant, as it can lead to a stronger commitment to long-term tenure and enhanced professional expertise among male nurses.

The roles of male nurses in healthcare settings are gradually diversifying, with their scope of duties showing a trend toward expansion(16). Male nurses make significant contributions, particularly in physically demanding fields such as emergency care, intensive care units, and psychiatric nursing(18). Related studies highlight that male nurses can excel in specific roles that require physical capability and psychological stability(19). Additionally, ongoing research explores ways to maximize the strengths of male nursing personnel within the profession.

Previous studies emphasize the need for policy support to enhance gender diversity among nurses and improve job satisfaction for male nurses. It is essential to create a workplace environment where male nurses can work free from gender discrimination and fully utilize their professional expertise(20-22). Future research should conduct a broader analysis of the roles of male nurses and provide empirical evidence of their contributions to the nursing profession. Additionally, it is necessary to develop specific educational and policy measures to improve societal perceptions of male nurses and strengthen their professional expertise.

With an aging population and increasing demand for healthcare services, the role of nurses is becoming more crucial. In response to these changes, foundational research is urgently needed to strengthen the role of male nurses and develop corresponding policies. Research on male nurses can provide essential and fundamental data for achieving gender balance within the nursing profession and enhancing the inclusiveness of nursing workforce policies

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Research Design

This study is designed as a literature review to analyze domestic research trends related to male nurses in Korea. The study is based on a qualitative research approach, systematically analyzing academic articles, dissertations, and reports from government and public institutions published in Korea related to male nurses with the aim of identifying key issues, research trends, and future research needs within studies related to male nurses.

2. Research Subjects

The research materials were selected to be papers and reports related to male nurses published domestically in Korea. The study targeted domestic research materials from 2000 to 2024, using database searches across academic resources such as the Research Information Sharing Service (RISS), Korean Studies Information Service System (KISS), DBpia, and PubMed.Key search terms included "male nurse," "male nursing professionals," "gender diversity in nursing," "job satisfaction of male nurses," and "role of male nurses."

3. DATA COLLECTION METHOD

Data collection was conducted through the following procedures:

Search Strategy: To locate papers covering key topics related to male nurses, relevant keywords aligned with the research topic were established. These keywords were then used to search domestic academic journals and dissertations. Search terms included "male nurse," "male nursing professional," "gender diversity," "job satisfaction of nurses," and "nurse job experience. Inclusion criteria were studies conducted in Korea that focused on topics related to male nurses, such as job experiences, social perceptions, and job satisfaction of male nursing professionals. Exclusion criteria included studies conducted outside of Korea or those not directly related to male nurses. Accordingly, selected research materials were reviewed by examining their titles, abstracts, and main texts, and only those that aligned with the research objectives were included for this study.

4. DATA ANALYSIS METHOD

The collected data were analyzed through the following procedures:

1. Thematic Analysis: Research trends were identified based on key themes extracted from the collected literature. Major research themes identified from each paper were categorized and analyzed under topics

such as job satisfaction, gender discrimination, social perception, career development, and educational experiences.

- 2. Analysis by Year: The study analyzed the quantitative trends of research publications by year to identify increases or decreases over time, helping to reveal shifts in research interest during specific periods.
- 3. Content Analysis: The main findings from each study were compared and analyzed to identify key issues and research trends related to male nurses. Differences in research methodologies, characteristics of study subjects, and similarities and differences in research outcomes were examined to understand the unique features of domestic research on this topic

5. Ethical Considerations

Since this study is based on a literature review, it did not require an ethical approval process. However, it is specified that all papers and reports used as research materials were collected from publicly available databases, and rigorous data analysis procedures were followed to maintain the reliability and validity of the research findings.

RESEARCH RESULTS

3. Quantitative Analysis

1) Publication Year

A review of 47 research papers published over the past 10 years shows that the highest number of studies was in 2023, with 10 papers (21.28%), followed by 2024 with 8 papers (17.02%). In 2016 and 2018, there were 6 publications each (12.77%), while 2015 and 2017 had 4 papers each (8.51%). In 2014, 2019, 2020, and 2022, only 1 paper was published per year (2.13%) (Table 1).

2) Source of Publications

The Journal of the Korea Academia-Industrial Cooperation Society published the highest number of studies, with 8 papers (17.02%). Various other journals accounted for 23 papers (48.94%), indicating a broad range of publication sources. The Korean Journal of Adult Nursing published 2 papers (4.26%), the Journal of Korean Academy of Nursing Administration had 4 papers (8.51%), the Asia-Pacific Journal of Multimedia Services published 2 papers (4.26%), and the Journal of Occupational Health Nursing featured 3 papers (6.38%) (Table 1).

3) IRB Approval Status

Among the 47 papers reviewed, 46 (97.87%) did not specify IRB approval, while only 1 paper (2.13%) indicated having received IRB approval (Table 1).

4) Research Subjects

Most studies focused on male nurses, with 38 papers (80.85%) targeting this group. Seven papers (14.89%) involved male nursing students as subjects, and two studies (4.26%) included both male nurses and firefighters as subjects (Table 1).

5) Research Design

The most commonly used research method was quantitative (survey-based) studies, with 15 papers (31.91%), followed by qualitative research (e.g., phenomenological approaches) with 17 papers (36.17%). Mixed-method studies (quantitative + qualitative) accounted for 4 papers (8.51%), while Q methodology was applied in 6 studies (12.77%). Descriptive correlational studies comprised 3 papers (6.38%), and focus group interviews were used in 2 studies (4.26%) (Table 1).

 Variable
 Category
 n
 %

 Year of Publication
 2023
 10
 $\frac{21.28}{\%}$

 2024
 8
 $\frac{17.02}{\%}$

Table 1. General Characteristics (N=47)

	2016	6	12.77 %
	2018	6	12.77 %
	2015	4	8.51%
	2017	4	8.51%
	2021	2	4.26%
	2014	1	2.13%
	2019	1	2.13%
	2020	1	2.13%
	2022	1	2.13%
	Other Journals	23	48.94 %
Published Journals	Journal of the Korea Academia-Industrial Cooperation Society	8	17.02 %
Research design	Journal of Korean Academy of Nursing Administration	4	8.51%
uesigii	Journal of Occupational Health Nursing	3	6.38%
	Korean Journal of Adult Nursing	2	4.26%
	Asia-Pacific Journal of Multimedia Services	2	4.26%
	Journal of Muscle and Joint Health	1	2.13%
	Health and Social Sciences	1	2.13%
IRB	Yes	46	97.87
IND	No	1	2.13
	Male Nurses	38	80.85
Subject	Male Nursing Students	7	14.89
	Firefighters	2	4.26
	Qualitative research	17	36.17
Research design	Quantitative research	15	31.91
	Q methodology	6	12.77
	Mixed methods research	4	8.51
	Descriptive correlational research	3	6.38
	Focus group interview	2	4.26

4. Key Variable Analysis

The results related to key variables in studies focused on male nurses are presented in <Table 2>. The primary variables identified were as follows: "job satisfaction" appeared in 12 studies (25.5%), making it the most frequently examined variable, followed by "intention to leave" in 10 studies (21.3%), and "gender role conflict" in 8 studies (17.0%). Other key variables included "resilience" in 10.6%, "organizational commitment" in 10.6%, "stress" in 10.6%, and "peer support" also in 10.6%, "Self-esteem" and "gender stereotypes" each appeared in 10.6%, "Self-esteem" and "gender stereotypes" each appeared in 10.6%, "stress" i

Table 2. Key Variable Analysis N=47

Variable	Frequency	%
Job Satisfaction	12	25.50%

Turnover Intention	10	21.30%
Gender Role Conflict	8	17.00%
Resilience	5	10.60%
Organizational Commitment	4	8.50%
Stress	3	6.40%
Colleague Support	3	6.40%
Self-esteem	1	2.10%
Gender Stereotypes	1	2.10%

5. Analysis of Trends by Research Topic

In this study, 47 papers focusing on male nurses were analyzed, categorizing research topics into psychological factors, organizational factors, job-related factors, and social factors. The analysis revealed that studies on psychological factors were the most prevalent. The number and proportion of papers for each research topic are as follows:

1) Psychological Factors

Psychological factors included studies focused on the mental stress and emotional burdens male nurses experience in their work, as well as topics like gender role conflict encountered during job performance. In this study, a total of 20 papers (42.6%) addressed psychological factors. Among these, studies on "gender role conflict" were the most common, with 8 papers (17.0%), followed by studies on "stress" with 7 papers (14.9%), "depression" with 3 papers (6.4%), and "anxiety" with 2 papers (4.3%). These studies revealed that gender role conflict, experienced by male nurses in female-dominated organizations, significantly impacts job satisfaction and intention to leave (Table 3).

2) Organizational Factors

Organizational factors comprised studies addressing workplace-related variables for male nurses, such as organizational commitment, peer support, and work environment. A total of 15 studies (31.9%) focused on organizational factors. Among these, "organizational commitment" was the most common topic, with 4 studies (8.5%), followed by "peer support" and "work environment," each with 3 studies (6.4%). Studies on "organizational culture" and "leadership" also appeared, each with 2 studies (4.3%). The findings emphasized that adaptation processes and improvements in the work environment for male nurses significantly impact their job satisfaction and intention to remain long-term (Table 3).

3) Job-Related Factors

Job-related factors included studies focused on variables directly related to male nurses' roles, such as job satisfaction, intention to leave, and work experiences. A total of 7 studies (14.9%) focused on job-related factors. Among these, 4 studies (8.5%) examined "job satisfaction," while 3 studies (6.4%) explored "intention to leave." The findings indicated that the job satisfaction and intention to leave experienced by male nurses significantly impact their career development and job stability (Table 3).

4) Social Factors

Social factors included studies examining external social elements that male nurses encounter during their work, such as societal perceptions and occupational stigma. A total of 5 studies (10.6%) focused on social factors. Among these, 3 studies (6.4%) addressed "social support," and 2 studies (4.3%) examined "occupational stigma." The findings indicated that negative experiences related to a lack of social support and the presence of occupational stigma adversely affect male nurses' job satisfaction and intention to leave (Table 3).

Studies on male nurses indicate that psychological factors were among the most frequently addressed topics, reflecting a high level of interest in the mental burdens and stress male nurses experience in their roles. Additionally, organizational and job-related factors were also relatively well-represented in the research, suggesting that the organizational stress and job satisfaction male nurses experience in their work environments play critical roles in their career development.

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
1	The relationship of gender role conflict and job satisfaction upon organizational commitment in male nurses	Lee Kyung-Joo, Kim Mi-Young	To investigate the impact of gender role conflict and job satisfaction on the organizationa l commitment of male nurses, and to provide insight into the adaptation of male nurses working in femaledominated environments. This will help in developing strategies for improving their job satisfaction and organizationa l commitment.	quantitative data collection and qualitative interviews with 8 participants for additional data. The quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS/WIN	satisfaction showing no direct correlation with low organizationa l commitment. Key themes from the qualitative data included aspirations for a better future despite

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					controlled by ambivalent emotions.
2	Job Satisfaction, Organizational Commitment, and Turnover Intention of Male Nurses	An Min-Kwon, Lee Myung-Ha, Kim Hyun- Kyung, Jung Suk-Hee	satisfaction, organizationa l commitment, and turnover intentions of male nurses in Korea, analyzing the correlations among these variables and exploring	Data were collected in May 2013 using a structured questionnaire from 150 male hospital nurses. The data were analyzed using SPSS/WIN 20.0, with correlation and multiple regression analyses performed.	A strong positive correlation was found between job satisfaction and organizationa l commitment, while a negative correlation was observed between job satisfaction and turnover intention. Organization al commitment had the greatest impact on turnover intention, explaining 47.8% of its variance. Factors such as educational level, department, and salary influenced job satisfaction and organizationa l commitment, while work duration and

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					salary affected turnover intention.
3	Influence of Interpersonal relation and Job Stress on Nursing Performance of Male Nurses	, ,	To examine the impact of interpersonal skills and job stress on the nursing performance of male nurses.	male nurses affiliated with the Korean Male Nurses Association, using a self-reported questionnaire to collect data. The	correlation with interpersonal skills and a negative correlation with job stress. Interpersonal skills, health status, total experience, and position were
4	Male Nursing Students' Image of Male Nurses	Song Mi- Seung, Park Young-Rye, Wi Hwi	nurses and analyze the characteristic	methodology was applied,	Male nursing students' images of male nurses were classified into three types: a positive image of male nurses as capable of leading organizations , a negative image reflecting societal prejudice against male

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					nurses, and a positive outlook for the future.
5	A Study on the Adaptation Process of Experienced Male Nurses	Yoon Hee-Jang	To explore the practical adaptation experiences of experienced male nurses, broaden understandin g of their lives and nursing practice, and shed light on their experiences and identity as male nurses.	used, specifically a hermeneutic narrative analysis, with in-depth interviews conducted with 10 male nurses with more than 3 years of experience. The interview	see themselves not as male nurses but as
6	Adaptation Experience of Male Nurses in General Wards of Advanced General Hospitals	Kim Ji-Hye, Park Kwang- Ok, Kim Jong- Kyung, Yoon Ha-Jung, Lee Jin-Hee, Cho Eun-Kyung, Kim Soon-Hee, Kim Yeon-Hee	nurses working in general wards at advanced general hospitals, providing foundational data useful for developing strategies to help male nurses adapt	phenomenolo gical study was conducted, with data collected through one-on-one in-depth interviews with 16 male nurses who had worked in general wards of advanced general hospitals in	adapting to wards due to multitasking challenges and social prejudices. The study concluded that there is a need for positive recognition of male nurses and better

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
				analyzed using Colaizzi's method.	
7	Gender in the Age of Convergence: A		To investigate the motivation for choosing the nursing profession, job satisfaction, and the image of male nurses from the perspectives of both male and female nurses, understandin g the current status and trends of male nurses.	from a general hospital in "J" province and 29 female nursing graduate students,	[professional growth] being the most satisfying element. Differences in perceptions of male nurses existed between male and female nurses, but overall, both
8	A Study on the Subjectivity of Male Nurses' Professional Image	Kim Ik-Ji, Shim Hyung-Hwa	the subjectivity of male nurses' professional image and propose strategies for enhancing the professional image of male nurses	methodology was used, with 35 male nurses asked to distribute 37 Q-samples on a 9-point scale. The data were analyzed	Male nurses' professional images were classified into four types (high pride, gender equality mindset, conflict between ideal and reality, developmentoriented with a professional outlook, low satisfaction

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
				factor analysis.	with turnover intention). Strategies were proposed to improve male nurses' professional image according to each type, strengthening their professional identity and contributing to the quality of the nursing profession.
9	The Impact of Continuous Education and Training on Nurses' Job Satisfaction	Lee Jung-Min, Choi Soo-Jung	To analyze the impact of continuous education and training on nurses' job satisfaction and provide foundational data for developing educational programs.	A survey was conducted among 150 nurses working at a general hospital in Seoul, analyzing the impact of continuous education and training on job satisfaction.	Continuous education and training played a crucial role in enhancing job satisfaction, particularly in increasing professionalis m and confidence.
10	A Prediction Model on the Male Nurses' Turnover Intention	Kim Soo-Ol, Kang Yoon- Hee	To develop and validate a predictive model of turnover intention among male nurses.	Price's turnover causal model, a survey was conducted	The hypothetical model fit well with the data, explaining 54.2% of the variance in turnover intention. Variables such as job opportunities , responsibility for family support, positive emotions, job autonomy,

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					role conflict, job satisfaction, and organizationa l commitment were significant predictors. This study provides useful insights for developing strategies to reduce turnover among male nurses.
11	The influence of gender role conflict, nursing professionalism on turnover intention among male nurses	Seo Geum-	To analyze the impact of gender role conflict and nursing professionalis mon turnover intention among male nurses and to seek ways to reduce turnover intention.	male nurses working in hospitals in Seoul, Gyeonggi-do, Chungcheong -do, and Gyeongsang- do from November 8,	professionalis m while reducing gender role conflict could
12	Students' Clinical	Kim Kyung- Ah, Won Mi- Hwa, Shin Seon-Hwa, Ko Ki-Yeon, Choi Joon-Kyung	of male	In-depth interviews were conducted with 8 male nursing students who completed	Male nursing students faced restrictions due to societal perceptions of gender roles, but they

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			obstetric wards, providing foundational data to enhance the effectiveness	obstetric wards from July to December 2012, with qualitative analysis using Colaizzi's phenomenolo	need for an
13	Types and Characteristics of Male Nurses as Perceived by Female Nurses: A Q-Methodological Approach	Sung Ji-Suk, Yeom Eun-Yi	To explore the types and characteristic s of male nurses as perceived by female nurses using the Q-methodology and to propose improvement strategies based on these perceptions.	The Q-methodology was applied to 35 female nurses to identify perception types of male nurses. The researchers created 35 Q-statements, which were rated on a 9-point scale by the participants, and the data were analyzed using the PC-QUANL program.	Female nurses' perceptions of male nurses were categorized into three types (progress-oriented advocates, realistic critics, and conservative accepters), with a common perception that male nurses experience stress due to the female-dominated workplace culture. The study contributes to the development of intervention programs to improve the

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					relationship and perception between male and female nurses.
14	The Subjectivity of Male Nurses' Professional Image	Kim Ik-Ji, Shim Hyung-Hwa	have about their professional image and classify them into different types, proposing strategies to enhance their professional image based	methodology was used with	Male nurses' professional images were classified into four types (high pride in gender equality thinking, conflict between ideals and reality, development-oriented with a professional perspective, low satisfaction with turnover intention). The study discussed strategies for improving male nurses' professional image according to each type.
15	A Convergence Study on the Public Health Nurse System	Lee Young- Shin	system among healthcare providers and users and to assess the quality of care provided by male nurses, contributing	survey was conducted with 140 participants, including healthcare providers (nurses, doctors, physical therapists, etc.) and	users (66.2%) supported the introduction of the public health nurse system, with 81.4% of

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			of national health.	with data analyzed using descriptive statistics, chisquare, and ttests.	suitable public health professionals. The study
16		Lee Mi-Ae, Seo Eun-Kyung, Park Hyun- Jung, Oh Jae- Woo	To investigate how health and nonhealth major students perceive male nurses and how these perceptions differ based on direct and indirect contact with male nurses.	and correlations in perceptions by detailed domains (psychologica l/personality, social, work). Hierarchical regression analysis was used to	There were minimal differences in perceptions between the two groups, but contact with male nurses significantly influenced perceptions, particularly in the psychological /personality domain. The study suggests that efforts are needed to improve perceptions
17	Relationship of gender role conflict and job satisfaction to	Hwang Ha- Man, Kim Myung-Ja	To examine the relationship between	collected from 225	The study showed that the gender role conflict

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
	turnover intention for men in nursing		_	between August 1 and September 1,	by male nurses at work significantly affected their job satisfaction and turnover intention, providing foundational data for developing workforce management strategies for
18	Turnover Experience of Male Nurses	Kim Hyun-Soo, Lee Jung-Seop	can explain the process of		The core category of the study was [Finding a Stable Place for Myself], leading to the identification of four types: satisfaction, longing, survival, and confusion. The turnover experience followed a cyclical process of [confrontatio n, uncertainty, retrying, and realization], with the possibility of returning to the confusion stage when issues arise.
19	Factors Influencing the	Lee Eun-Soo, Kwon Hyuk-		A descriptive survey was	Factors such as age, work

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
	Image of Male Nurses as Perceived by Female Nurses	Soo, Lee Yang- Sook	the image of male nurses as perceived by female nurses and to provide foundational data for forming a partnership between female and	university hospitals, general hospitals, and specialized	status significantly influenced female nurses' perceptions of male nurses, with traditional perceptions of the nursing profession and societal images also playing important
20	Factors Influencing Retention Intention of Male Nurses Working in Healthcare Institutions	Yoo Mi, Kang Kyung-Ja, Yoo Soo-Jung, Park Myung-Sook	influencing retention intention among male nurses working in healthcare institutions in Korea, with a	male nurses working in hospitals and healthcare	influencing retention intention was [person- organization fit], followed by [content career stagnation, work experience

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			and career stagnation.		organization fit and career development opportunities is crucial for enhancing retention intention among male nurses.
21	Perception Types of Role Expectations Experienced by Male Nurses	Shim In-Ok, Bae Ok-Yeon	perceptions, and provide foundational data for improving understandin g of male	methodology was used to analyze the types of role expectations perceived by male nurses. The Q-sample was constructed through literature review, interviews with male nurses, and expert classification, with data analyzed using the	classified into four types (superior non-conformist, role change expectant, realistic adapter, and positive coper), providing essential information on the
22	Experience of Female Nurses Working with Male Nurses	Seo Yeon-Ok, Lee Kyung- Woo	settings, analyze the meaning and structure of these experiences,	approach was used, with indepth interviews conducted with 11 female nurses who had worked with male nurses for more than	were derived from the experiences of female nurses working with male nurses, including [prejudice

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			nurses adapt to clinical environments and contribute to the development of the nursing profession.		difficulty forming trust and solidarity as colleagues, lack of intimacy due to inappropriate attitudes, relaxation of stereotypes about male nurses, acceptance of gender characteristic s and individuality, and expectations for improving the nursing profession's status].
23	The Influence of Nursing Image and Major Satisfaction on Nursing Professionalism in Male Nursing Students	Min, Kim Hee- Young, Park	image and major	with 180 male nursing students who had experienced clinical practice at	form a positive nursing image and increase major satisfaction through education and guidance to enhance nursing
24	Job Satisfaction of Male Physician Assistants: Applying a Mixed Research Method	Lim Young- Sook, Kang Kyung-Ah	satisfaction experiences	A mixed research method was used, first analyzing the factors	confirmed that job stress

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			Physician Assistants (PAs) using a mixed research method, identifying the factors influencing their job satisfaction.	satisfaction of male PAs through quantitative research and then exploring	significantly influence the job satisfaction of male PAs, suggesting the need to strengthen professional identity and provide systematic management and attention.
25	Clinical Practice Experience of Male Nursing Students	Park Chan- Sun, Yoon Sook-Young	To explore the stress experienced by male nursing students during clinical practice and their coping strategies.	with focus group interviews conducted to explore their clinical practice experiences. The interviews lasted approximatel y 1 hour and	categories (bearing the burden on their own, seeing their future through the attitudes of future colleagues, and changing from a negative to a positive environment), 8 themes, and 19 meaningful statements

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
				phenomenolo gical analysis method.	
26	Experiences of Male Nurses Who Faced Rejection of Nursing Care	Choi Kyung- Hye, Kim Hyun-Joo, Kim Joo-Hyun, Nam Eun- Sook, Hyun Hye-Jin, Kang Hyun-Wook, Yoon Seong-Ja, Son Hyun- Jung, Kim Hyun-Jung, Hwang Ah- Reum, Kim Won-Hee	understand the experiences of male nurses who were rejected from providing nursing care	the data were analyzed to	into three categories (rejection due to gender stereotypes, my response when faced with rejection of nursing care, and finding my place as a nurse).
27	The Impact of Gender Role Identity and Gender Stereotypes on Prejudice Against Male Nurses Among Hospital Workers	Choi Joo-Hee, Jang Cheol- Hoon, Kim Sung-Soo	To investigate the impact of gender role identity and gender stereotypes on prejudice against male nurses among hospital workers.	hospital workers at a tertiary general hospital in Busan, collecting data through	The study found that groups with androgynous gender role identity had lower gender stereotypes and prejudice against male nurses than other groups. Hospital workers held prejudices that male nurses should work in specialized departments, and gender stereotypes were positively correlated with prejudice against male

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					nurses. The study concluded that medical institutions need to establish a gender-equal organizationa l culture and ensure that male nurses are given equal opportunities .
28	Factors Affecting Social Support, Emotional Exhaustion and Job Stress on Job Satisfaction and Intention to Leave of Male Nurses	Kang Jung-Hee	affecting job satisfaction and turnover intention among male nurses,	questionnaire s to measure social support, emotional	The main factors affecting job satisfaction and turnover intention among male nurses were social support, emotional exhaustion, and job stress. Higher social support was associated with higher job satisfaction and lower turnover intention, while higher emotional exhaustion and job stress were associated with lower job satisfaction and higher turnover intention, and job stress were associated with lower job satisfaction and higher turnover intention.

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
29	School Life Adaptation Experience of Male Nursing Students Who Returned After Military Service	Nam Kyung- Ah, Kang Kyung-Hwa, Moon Sung-Mi	To explore and describe the school life adaptation experiences of male nursing students who returned to school after completing military service, providing foundational data for developing nursing education strategies to support their adaptation.	A qualitative research method, using focus group interviews, was conducted with male nursing students who returned to a four-year nursing program after military service. A total of 6 groups were interviewed, with each group consisting of at least 2 and at most 4 students.	The school life adaptation experiences of male nursing students who returned after military service were categorized into four themes (starting anew, encountering obstacles, striving to find their place, and confusion over professional identity).
30		Shim In-Ok, Park Jung-Min	medics during military service and	A qualitative research method, using	Five themes were derived (recognition of various medic roles, acquisition of specialized disease management and treatment skills, adaptation to the characteristic s of hierarchical work, understandin g the healthcare network, and pre-learning of school subjects). The study suggests that the experiences

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					of male nursing students as military medics can serve as essential foundational data for nursing education programs.
31	The Relationship among Gender Stereotype, Role Conflict and Organizational Commitment of Male nurses	Lee Eun-Jung, Park Bo-Hyun	nurses. This study aims to understand the challenges male nurses face in femaledominated	August and September 2016 using structured questionnaire s to measure gender stereotypes, role conflict, and organizationa l commitment. The data were	promoting their emotional commitment in female- dominated nursing
32	Clinical Practice Experience of Male Nursing Students in Women's Health Nursing	Joo Eun- Kyung	male nursing students' experiences during clinical	interviews were conducted with 10 male nursing students who completed clinical practice in obstetric wards, maternity	The main themes were [inevitable discriminatio n, fear of practice, limited but meaningful experiences, choosing other practice sites]. Participants faced

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			wards, and gynecological wards, and to understand the challenges and significance of these experiences.	wards between February 2016 and February 2017. The	experiences linked to gender-discriminator y elements in the nursing education environment. The study
33	The Experience of Becoming a Nurse for Male Nurses	Kim Soo-Ol, Bae Kyung-Eui	To explore the experiences of becoming a nurse for male nurses through a phenomenolo gical approach. Research question [What experiences did you have before becoming a nurse and now as a nurse?]	experiences	stereotypes, gender discriminatio n in hospitals, and female-dominated organizationa l culture. Despite these challenges, most male nurses overcame these difficulties

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					and doubts about their profession, they were inclined to consider transitioning to more specialized fields.
34	Experiences of Male Nurses Working in Intensive Care Units	Yoo Hee-	The purpose of this study is to understand and describe the experiences of male nurses working in intensive care units (ICUs).	analysis. Indepth interviews were conducted with eight male nurses from November	facing life and death daily; challenges in interactions with female colleagues and patients; support from male colleagues; pride in their unique roles

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					respect between genders in nursing roles and a better understandin g of the contributions of male nurses in ICU settings.
35	Nurses as	Jin Young Hong, Seon Nyeo Kim, Myoung Jean Ju, Sue Kyung Sohn	analyze its impact on job satisfaction, gender role conflict, and related factors. Based on these findings, the study aims to propose education and policy measures for establishing proper gender images and understandin	was conducted with 248 female nurses working in university hospitals and general hospitals in I- city, S-city, C- province, and K-province. Data were collected through questionnaire s and analyzed	with higher job satisfaction. The study concluded that education and policy measures are needed to
36	The Impact of Hospital Organizational Culture on Male Nurses' Job Satisfaction	Lee Sang-Seop, Lee Hyun-Joo, Jung Hye-Sun	l culture and male nurses' job satisfaction. The study aims to	was conducted with 110 male nurses working at nine university hospitals in Seoul and Gyeonggi Province,	score for hospital organizationa l culture was 3.13 out of 5, with a conservative and

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			affects male nurses' job satisfaction and explore ways to help	collect data. The collected data were analyzed using SPSS 17.0, with frequency	satisfaction score was 2.92, with interaction scoring the highest at 3.19, while
37	Experience of Gender Discrimination in the Workplace Among Male Nurses	Jang Hyung-	discriminatio n in the workplace among male nurses. The study aims to analyze specific cases of gender discriminatio n experienced	was conducted with 118 male nurses through an online survey, with responses analyzed using content analysis. Participants	

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
				their experiences of gender discriminatio n in the workplace, from which meaningful statements were extracted and classified into	experienced sexual harassment from female colleagues. The study identified social prejudice, the minority status of male nurses, and a lack of societal sensitivity to gender discriminatio n against men as major causes. The study proposed that reducing gender discriminatio n requires efforts to raise awareness, increase the number of male nurses, and reduce social prejudice related to gender roles.
38	A Phenomenological Approach to the Clinical Adaptation Experience of Male Nurses in Recovery Rooms	Park Sung-Ju, Kim Myung-Ah	of the experiences of male nurses working in recovery	recovery rooms at a general hospital from May 2020 to	four main categories: the process of establishing pride as a nurse and

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			roles in recovery rooms.	The collected data were analyzed using Colaizzi's method, with four categories, nine subthemes, and 21 themes derived.	efforts to adapt through relationships with seniors and peers, and the process of
39	A Comprehensive Literature Review on Male Nurses' Self-Image and Influencing Factors	Jeon Jae-Hee,	Tactore that	A comprehensi ve literature review was conducted on 12 related studies published between 2009 and 2019, using Whittemore and Knafl's integrative review methodology. The process included five steps: problem identification, literature search and selection, data evaluation, data analysis, and conclusion drawing.	Male nurses' self-image was summarized into four main themes: [the image of a simple nurse, the opportunity of nursing as a profession, ambiguity in professional identity, and limited roles]. Other key factors influencing male nurses' self-image included nursing competencies , social gender stereotypes, and the lack of male nurse role models. The study concluded that strategiesto improve male nurses' self-image storic models.

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
					image are necessary.
40	Narrative Inquiry into the Experiences of Experienced Male Nurses	Lee Hye-Jin	To deeply explore the clinical experiences of male nurses with more than 10 years of experience, revealing the meaning of their lives and work experiences.	A narrative inquiry methodology was used, with in-depth interviews conducted with four experienced male nurses from April to June 2019. The participants' experiences were constructed in a narrative format, and the data were analyzed to derive the essential meaning of their experiences.	Five main themes were derived: [conflict between being a pilot and a nurse, difficulty adapting as a man in a female-dominated organization, establishing identity as a male nurse, responsibility as a family breadwinner, and challenges in career development without a clear path].
41	The Impact of Motivation-Hygiene Factors on Organizational Commitment, Job Satisfaction, and Retention Intention of Male Nurses	Geun, Oh Se-	the impact of Herzberg's motivation-hygiene factors on the organizationa l commitment, job satisfaction, and retention intention of male nurses, providing evidence for developing motivational strategies to	male nurses working in healthcare institutions in Korea. Data were collected	organizationa l commitment, job satisfaction, and retention intention of male nurses. Organization al commitment

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			turnover among male nurses.	and analyzed their correlations and impact on organizationa l commitment, job satisfaction, and retention intention.	factors had a greater impact on organizationa l commitment and job satisfaction than motivation factors, while both factors had similar influences on retention intention.
42	The Impact of Gender Stereotypes, Resilience, and Peer Support on Turnover Intention Among Male Nurses	Kim Hyung- Seok, Lee Yeon-Hee	To analyze the impact of gender stereotypes, resilience, and peer support on turnover intention among male nurses, proposing practical workforce management strategies to reduce turnover rates among male nurses.	A descriptive survey study was conducted with 148 male nurses working in general hospitals and tertiary general hospitals in Busan, Daegu, Ulsan, and Gyeongsangn am-do for more than six months. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, ttests, ANOVA, Pearson correlation analysis, and hierarchical regression analysis.	Peer support and resilience showed significant negative correlations with turnover intention, with peer support having the greatest impact. Gender stereotypes did not show a significant correlation with turnover intention. The study concluded that strategies to enhance peer support and resilience could effectively reduce turnover intention among male nurses.
43	Nursing Students'	Park Shin-Ji, Park So-Yeon,	how male	A survey was conducted in August 2022 with 188	did not perceive

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
	Male Nurses and Long-Term Career Plans		influence their long- term career plans and to	enrolled in nursing	suitable profession for both men and women were more likely to choose non- clinical fields. Additionally, students with negative perceptions of male nurses tended to pursue non- clinical career paths. The study suggests that perceptions of male nurses significantly influence male nursing students' career choices.
44	Burning Experience of Male Nurses	Hong Kyung- Sook	male nurses' experiences of 'burning' and to understand these experiences in-depth, contributing to workforce management	A qualitative phenomenolo gical research method (Colaizzi) was used, with indepth interviews conducted with 10 male nurses with more than one year of clinical experience who had experienced burning. The collected data were analyzed using Colaizzi's method, identifying 37 meaning	was categorized into four main thematic clusters: a life-changing experience:

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
No	Title	Authors	Objective	units, 19	adapt to female-
					become role models for future male nurses.
45	*	Oh Hwa- Kyung	understand the work adaptation experiences of male nurses working in shift work and explore the meaning and	A qualitative research method using Colaizzi's phenomenolo gical approach was conducted from September to November 2022 with in-	Four categories and 11 themes were derived. The study highlighted the increase in mental and physical energy consumption

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			improving	depth interviews of 9 male nurses working in tertiary general hospitals, general hospitals, specialized hospitals, and long-term care hospitals. Data were collected until saturation was reached.	interpersonal burdens, and efficient time management. Other findings included the limitations in nursing tasks, difficulties adapting to gender differences
46	-	Hyun Il-Seon, Kim Na-Hyun, Lee Eun-Sook	male nurses to transfer from hospital	were 10 male nurse- turned-	The study revealed that various challenges and frustrations experienced by male nurses in hospitals were major factors prompting their transfer to firefighting. The study suggests the need for measures to overcome gender stereotypes,

No	Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
				and motivations for transferring to firefighting were explored through indepth interviews, and the results were analyzed using content analysis to derive 34 meaning units, 15 subcategories, and five categories.	rights and treatment of
47	Analysis of Image Types of Male Nurses Perceived by Nursing Students: A Methodological Approach	Choi Yoon- Sung, Kwon Hye-Rim, Yang Soo-Hyun, Seo Young-Eun, Ahn Jung-Eun, Lee Hyo-Jin, Shim Jin, Lee Da-In	To identify the types of male nurse images perceived by nursing students using the Qmethodology and analyze the characteristic s of each type, providing foundational data for forming positive nurse images through educational interventions.	the Q-methodology was conducted with 50 nursing students enrolled at a university in Incheon. The students were asked to complete a written interview about their perceptions of male nurses, from which 34 statements were derived. The students were then asked to rate these statements on a 9-point scale, and the	images perceived by nursing students: Traditional Gender Role Breaker: Perceives that male nurses can perform nursing roles well regardless of gender. Gender Role Perception Fixer: Maintains traditional gender role stereotypes in nursing, believing that gender differences exist in nursing tasks.

No Title	Authors	Objective	Methodology	Results
			analyzed using the pc- QUANL program.	Believes male nurses can play important roles within nursing organizations, with masculine characteristic s seen as beneficial for nursing tasks. Social Image Influenced: Feels awkward about the social image of male nurses and is influenced by others' perceptions.

Table 3. Trend Analysis by Research Topic

6. DISCUSSION

This study analyzes research on male nurses published in domestic journals from 2014 to 2024 (1-47), with the objective of identifying directions for enhancing the role and status of male nurses. The nursing field has traditionally been viewed as a female profession; however, with societal changes and the breakdown of gender stereotypes, the number of male nurses is gradually increasing. These changes contribute to nursing being recognized as a gender-neutral profession within healthcare settings (23-44), prompting a steady increase in research exploring the roles and contributions of male nurses.

Previous studies on male nurses (25-31) primarily focus on their work experiences, gender-related challenges, job satisfaction, and workplace gender discrimination. In particular, issues related to discriminatory treatment and social perceptions experienced by male nurses, especially in comparison to their female colleagues, are emerging as significant research topics. Additionally, studies on the specific roles male nurses perform in clinical settings (such as physically demanding tasks and mental health nursing) are also actively being conducted. This suggests that male nurses possess distinct strengths compared to female nurses, indicating their important role in enhancing the quality of healthcare services (37).

This study aims to examine the current state of research on male nurses in Korea (1-47), analyze how their roles and status are addressed in nursing education and practice, and propose future directions for the advancement of male nurses. Through this, the study seeks to shed new light on the importance and contributions of male nurses and to propose specific strategies to enhance their job satisfaction and work efficiency.

An examination of research on male nurses in Korea by publication year shows that in 2023, 10 papers were published, accounting for 21.28% of the total studies. This indicates a growing societal interest in male nurses. In 2024, 8 papers (17.02%) were published, confirming an increase in research on male nurses over the past two years. This trend reflects growing discussions around gender diversity within the nursing profession and highlights the recognized need to enhance the

roles and status of male nurses. In contrast, only one study (2.13%) was published in each of the years 2014, 2019, 2020, and 2022, indicating relatively limited research during these periods. This may be due to the fact that social awareness of male nurses had not yet been fully established, or because researchers prioritized other topics during these periods. The increase in research on male nurses since the 2020s can be interpreted as a reflection of the growing social demand for gender equality and diversity within the nursing field. Research on male nurses has been steadily increasing, indicating a growing interest in their roles and contributions within the field.

Research on male nurses in Korea is published across various academic journals, with the Journal of the Korea Academia-Industrial Cooperation Society featuring the highest number of studies (8 papers, 17.02%). This suggests that research on male nurses is being addressed through collaboration and integration between industry and academia. Additionally, 23 studies (48.94%) were published in various other journals, indicating that research on male nurses is not confined to specific journals but is addressed multidisciplinary across a range of academic publications. Two studies (4.26%) were published in the Korean Journal of Adult Nursing, four (8.51%) in the Journal of Korean Academy of Nursing Administration, two (4.26%) in the Asia-Pacific Journal of Multimedia Services, and three (6.38%) in the Journal of Occupational Health Nursing. This indicates that interest in male nurses extends beyond nursing alone, encompassing exchanges with other fields such as occupational health, nursing administration, and multimedia services. The role of male nurses is expanding beyond traditional nursing boundaries, integrating with various fields, which is expected to further strengthen their status and contributions within the profession.

An analysis of IRB approval status in domestic research on male nurses showed that, out of 47 studies, only 1 paper (2.13%) received IRB approval, while 46 papers (97.87%) did not specify IRB approval. The fact that most studies did not clearly specify IRB approval indicates a need for improvement in research ethics. In fields like nursing, which involve human data, the necessity of IRB approval should be given greater consideration.

This study analyzed key variables in research focused on male nurses in Korea to identify research trends related to male nursing professionals. Job satisfaction (25.5%) and intention to leave (21.3%) were the most frequently studied variables. Previous research has also reported that job satisfaction among male nurses affects job retention, with factors such as gender role conflict and social biases in the workplace contributing to an increased intention to leave the profession (31. Gender role conflict (17%) suggests that the conflict and psychological burden male nurses experience in femaledominated work environments remains a significant research focus. Male nurses experience stress related to gender stereotypes, which has been reported to negatively impact their job satisfaction and organizational commitment, potentially contributing to their intention to leave the profession (32). Therefore, to strengthen the professionalism of male nurses, institutional support and improvements in the work environment are needed to reduce gender role conflict. Resilience (10.6%) was identified as a crucial factor for male nurses in overcoming job stress and organizational challenges. Nurses with higher resilience demonstrated greater job satisfaction and resistance to stress, highlighting resilience as an important factor in reducing job stress and enhancing job retention among male nurses (32). Consequently, institutional support and education are needed to improve the work environment for male nurses and reduce gender role conflict.

The study analyzed domestic research on male nurses by categorizing the topics into psychological, organizational, job-related, and social factors. An analysis of research trends by topic shows that psychological factors accounted for the largest proportion (42.6%), reflecting the high academic interest in the mental burdens and stress male nurses experience during their work. Previous studies have also confirmed that male nurses experience mental burdens, such as gender role conflict, within female-dominated organizations, which can significantly impact their job satisfaction and intention to leave (33,34). A total of 20 studies focused on psychological factors, with gender role conflict (17.0%) being the most frequently addressed, followed by stress (14.9%), depression (6.4%), and anxiety (4.3%). Gender role conflict is a significant issue male nurses face in their roles, directly impacting job satisfaction and intention to leave. This conflict within the organization can elevate levels of job stress and anxiety, becoming a key factor that increases the likelihood of turnover. To alleviate these psychological factors, it is essential to dismantle gender role stereotypes within the organization and establish support systems that mitigate psychological challenges for male nurses. Programs such as counseling or mentoring systems can provide the necessary psychological support

to help reduce these difficulties. Through these measures, male nurses can experience reduced mental burdens in their roles, ultimately enhancing their long-term job satisfaction.

A total of 15 studies (31.9%) focused on organizational factors, primarily covering topics such as organizational commitment (8.5%), peer support (6.4%), and work environment (6.4%). Organizational commitment impacts male nurses' intention to stay long-term and their job satisfaction; as male nurses feel a stronger sense of belonging and dedication to the organization, their job satisfaction increases (35,36). Therefore, organizational support and collaboration are essential for helping male nurses adapt to their work environment and feel satisfied. Improvements in the work environment should provide conditions that allow male nurses to fully engage in their roles, and strengthening peer support systems can further enhance their workplace experience. Regularly providing a mutual feedback system and workshops or team activities to strengthen collaboration among colleagues is necessary to enhance job satisfaction. This approach enables male nurses to perform their duties in a more stable environment within the organization, which is expected to positively impact long-term job retention.

A total of 7 studies (14.9%) focused on job-related factors, with job satisfaction (8.5%) and intention to leave (6.4%) being the primary topics addressed. Job satisfaction among male nurses is considered a crucial factor for job retention and career growth. Higher job satisfaction tends to correlate with lower intention to leave, positively impacting job stability and career development (37,38). Consequently, it is essential to provide career development opportunities and implement tailored job improvement strategies to help male nurses feel secure in their roles. This will contribute to increasing job satisfaction for male nurses and establishing a foundation for their long-term career development.

The study on social factors includes a total of five papers (10.6%), with social support experienced during work (6.4%) and occupational stigma (4.3%) being the main variables addressed. The research findings indicate that male nurses experiencing negative perceptions due to a lack of social support or occupational stigma tend to have increased work-related stress, with experiences of social stigma potentially acting as a factor that lowers their job satisfaction (39,40). To improve these social factors, it is necessary to promote a positive perception of male nurses within the nursing field and implement measures to address the lack of social support they experience in their roles. To this end, enhancing gender equality education in schools and hospitals and launching campaigns that respect the professionalism and occupational value of male nurses can help foster social perception changes. This approach would enable male nurses to move beyond social stigmas and experience a more positive work environment.

Research on male nurses needs to be applied to actual nursing practice and educational settings. The abundance of studies on psychological and organizational factors suggests the need to improve the work environment for male nurses by addressing gender role conflicts and strengthening support systems within organizations. Future research should propose specific strategies to enhance job satisfaction among male nurses and support their long-term career development.

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study analyzed research trends related to male nurses published domestically from 2014 to 2024. The results show that research on male nurses has primarily focused on psychological and organizational factors, such as gender role conflict and organizational commitment. These studies are expected to serve as foundational data to understand and support the various challenges and mental burdens male nurses face in their professional roles.

The findings confirm that the gender role conflicts and challenges with social perception that male nurses experience in the workplace can negatively impact their job satisfaction and increase turnover intentions. This underscores the need for enhanced psychological support programs and strengthened organizational support systems to help male nurses achieve stable job engagement and foster long-term career growth.

Future research requires a comprehensive approach that integrates various psychological and organizational factors to support job satisfaction and long-term retention among male nurses. In particular, developing education and policies aimed at fostering a gender-equal work environment and improving social perceptions is crucial. Through these efforts, practical solutions should be

established to help male nurses settle and grow securely in their roles. Furthermore, to facilitate the continuous career development of male nurses, it is essential to implement regular professional training opportunities. Establishing structured feedback mechanisms and programs aimed at enhancing peer support could contribute to a more supportive work environment, thus enabling male nurses to advance their careers within a framework of reinforced professional collaboration.

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